Bicester Hospital and Community Services Project

Questions & Answers

Q: What is the background to this project?

A: The PCT is committed to providing a new primary care facility to replace the current Bicester Community Hospital and to ensure that 12 intermediate or rehabilitation beds are available in Bicester. The whole project is currently being planned in consultation with local people and a new building is expected to be completed by 2012.

Q: What is an ‘expression of interest?’

A: We have asked organisations who may be interested in building the new facility in Bicester or providing the bed-based services to let us know that they are interested in being considered. The PCT will then consider any plans that are submitted.

Q: How long will it take you to deal with the ‘expressions of interest?’

A: The process to identify developers and/or service providers will take 12 months. It will take this long because of the legal requirements the PCT is bound by.

Q: There have been a lot of options considered over the years into how health care should be developed in Bicester. Does this news mean the PCT has decided which option to go with?

A: Not yet. The PCT realises how important it is to work with local people to get the right outcome and this work will take some time. Potential developers or providers will come forward over the next year or so with ideas which can be tested with the project group and with local people, to ensure that the right outcome is achieved. The final option, therefore, will not be known until the end of this process.

Q: What does ‘re-provision of bed –based services’ mean?

A: This means that the same number of beds in Bicester (12) will be available in Bicester as now.

Q: Does ‘re-provision of bed –based services’ mean creating a new building to re-house the hospital’s existing 12 beds for patients?

A: It’s not possible to say at this early stage. All we can say is that there will be 12 beds. There may be a new building created, if this turns out to be the right option, but there may be other ways to achieve the same outcome and these also need to be explored.